

December 2016



CAMDEN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Soil & Water Conservation

SWCD Supervisors Election to Be Held December 13

The Camden Soil & Water Conservation District will hold an election for one Supervisor in Area 1 (Climax Springs area) and one in Area 3 (Montreal-Richland-Stoutland areas) on Tuesday, December 13, 2016, from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm at the SWCD office, located at 275 Old South 5, Camdenton, MO.

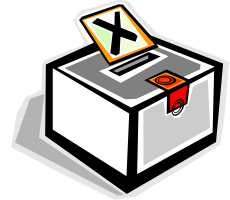
Nominating committees for the election have submitted names of the following qualifying candidates:

Area 1: Jeff Apperson

Tom F. Wolf

Area 3: Troy Frederick

Mike Frederick



The owner of any farm lying within Camden County is eligible to vote. A farm is defined as land which has been assessed as agricultural land within land grades I through VII by the county assessor. Voters will vote for one person in each area.

The present board supervisors are: Earnest L. Calvert, Jeff Apperson, Joseph Moulder, and Troy Frederick. Supervisors administer District policies, programs, personnel, and funds. The District is supported by the one-tenth of one percent parks, soils and water sales tax, and other sources. For additional information on the district election, contact the District Office by phone at 573-346-5125, or by email at connie.luttrell@swcd.mo.gov



Christmas Open House to Be Held December 13

On December 13, an open house will be held in conjunction with our supervisors' election (see related article above). Even if you are not eligible to vote in the election, come by the office between 11:00 and 5:00 PM., have cookies and punch and some other goodies, and visit with staff.

We're in one of the green buildings at the Seven Trails Development across the highway from Laclede Electric. Our office is the one closest to High Brothers Lumber Company,

Farm Service News

USDA Offers New Loans for Portable Farm Storage and Handling Equipment

Portable Equipment Can Help Producers, including Small-Scale and Local Farmers, Get Products to Market Quickly

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will provide a new financing option to help farmers purchase portable storage and handling equipment. The loans, which now include a smaller microloan option with lower down payments, are designed to help producers, including new, small and mid-sized producers, grow their businesses and markets.

The program also offers a new "microloan" option, which allows applicants seeking less than \$50,000 to qualify for a reduced down payment of five percent and no requirement to provide three years of production history. Farms and ranches of all sizes are eligible. The microloan option is expected to be of particular benefit to smaller farms and ranches, and specialty crop producers who may not have access to commercial storage or on-farm storage after harvest. These producers can invest in equipment like conveyers, scales or refrigeration units and trucks that can store commodities before delivering them to markets. Producers do not need to demonstrate the lack of commercial credit availability to apply.

Earlier this year, FSA significantly expanded the list of commodities eligible for Farm Storage Facility Loan. Eligible commodities now include aquaculture; floriculture; fruits (including nuts) and vegetables; corn, grain sorghum, rice, oilseeds, oats, wheat, triticale, spelt, buckwheat, lentils, chickpeas, dry peas, sugar, peanuts, barley, rye, hay, honey, hops, maple sap, unprocessed meat and poultry, eggs, milk, cheese, butter, yogurt and renewable biomass. FSFL microloans can also be used to finance wash and pack equipment used post-harvest, before a commodity is placed in cold storage.

Farm Storage Facility Loans

FSA's Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program provides low-interest financing to producers to build or upgrade storage facilities.

The low-interest funds can be used to build or upgrade permanent facilities to store commodities. Eligible commodities include corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley, minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain, pulse crops (lentils, chickpeas and dry peas), hay, honey, renewable biomass, fruits, nuts and vegetables for cold storage facilities, floriculture, hops, maple sap, rye, milk, cheese, butter, yogurt, meat and poultry (unprocessed), eggs, and aquaculture (excluding systems that maintain live animals through uptake and discharge of water). Qualified facilities include grain bins, hay barns and cold storage facilities for eligible commodities.

Loans up to \$50,000 can be secured by a promissory note/security agreement and some loans between \$50,000 and \$100,000 will no longer require additional security.

Producers do not need to demonstrate the lack of commercial credit availability to apply. The loans are designed to assist a diverse range of farming operations, including small and mid-sized businesses, new farmers, operations supplying local food and farmers markets, non-traditional farm products, and underserved producers.

To learn more about the FSA Farm Storage Facility Loan, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport or contact your local FSA county office. To find your local FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

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State Women In Ag Meeting Held in Springfield



Camden County Attendees

Eleven ladies from Camden County recently attended the 2017 State Women in Ag in Springfield. The "Paradise in the Ozarks" conference kicked off with vendors and several workshops. The workshops included Holistic Farming-Rotational Beef & Poultry, Organic Gardening/Pest Management, Electric Fencing, Young Living Essential Oils, and Harvest Finds—Tips and Treasures for the Home.

The banquet that evening continued with the luau theme and the ladies dressed for the occasion.

On Tuesday, four buses transported the 200+ ladies to the Talbot Conservation Area, and then onto the Livestock Marketing Center for lunch and a speaker. That afternoon everyone traveled to the Baker Creek Seed Company near Mansfield, MO.

The following day the National Weather Service employees spoke on the Impacts of Missouri Weather on Agriculture. Ashley Reynolds of KY3 spoke at the closing session. She talked about various scams that were reported to her and how to avoid being scammed.



Demo on How to bag corn at Baker Creek Seed

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Camden County FSA Acreage Reporting Dates for 2017

OCT 20, 2016 -Camden County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director CED Darrel McCann announced that producers who file accurate and timely reports for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage can prevent the potential loss of FSA program benefits. Please pay close attention to the acreage reporting dates below for 2017.

"In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the Camden County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline," said McCann. The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Camden County:

November 15, 2016: grass certification

December 15, 2016: fall barley, fall wheat & all other fall-seeded small grains

January 15, 2017: apples, grapes & peaches

May 15, 2017: spring oats & potatoes

Community Action Group Looks to High Tunnel for Added Nutrition

RICHLAND, MO – A non-profit community action group in the Ozarks region of Missouri combined volunteer efforts with donations from local businesses and \$6,000 from the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to construct a seasonal high tunnel at its community garden. A high tunnel is like a green house, with the main difference being that vegetables are planted in the ground inside a high tunnel, not in pots on tables.

Barry Mullins, Resource Development Coordinator for Missouri Ozarks Community Action, Inc., (MOCA) said the 30-foot-by-72-foot high tunnel will provide nutritious vegetables that many of the organization's clients lack in their diets. He said the vegetables will be distributed through local foodbanks in eight counties.

"It will put nutritious food on the tables of low-income families," Mullins said. "People often don't buy vegetables because they can't afford them. Junk food is cheap, so they buy that. Fruit and vegetables are expensive."

Volunteer assistance from a Scout and from an engineering battalion at Fort Leonard Wood provided the labor needed to install the high tunnel. Toby Barnes, a teenager working toward his Eagle Scout designation, led other Scouts from Troop 202 in Waynesville to do ground work, along with MOCA's Weatherization department. Then the Army soldiers took over to complete the higher-level construction of the high tunnel.

J.R. Flores, NRCS State Conservationist, said he enjoys the feeling of knowing that assistance from his agency will be leveraged into helping so many people.

"The NRCS slogan is 'Helping People Help the Land,' but often what we are really doing is helping people help people. This project is a great example of that," Flores said.

David Miller, MOCA executive director, said the high tunnel will be used in combination with MOCA's outside garden to provide vegetables nearly year-round.

"This will add some time to the growing season on the front end, and on the back end," Miller said. "This is an all-around good community project for this area."

The Richland high tunnel will have an educational element as well. Young students in the community's Head Start program will have classes in the high tunnel designed to teach them the importance of growing and eating nutritious food.

NRCS has provided funding for 559 high tunnels in Missouri since 2010. Many of those would not have been constructed otherwise. Mullins said that is the case with the high tunnel at the Richland Community Garden.

"Without USDA's help, this would not have been possible," he said.

Michael Morris, the NRCS district conservationist whose office oversaw the high tunnel project, said it was a nice change of pace. NRCS more commonly works with farmers, ranchers and other land users to plan and implement conservation systems and management methods that conserve and protect the quality of soil, water, plants, animals, air and energy.

"We see a lot of conservation practices put on the land, but not many have a ribbon-cutting ceremony," Morris said.



Ribbon-cutting ceremony at the high tunnel on October 13.

Christmas Trivia

1. What did Frosty the Snowman have for a nose?
2. How many gifts would you receive if you received all of the gifts in the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas"?
3. In the song, "Go Tell It on the Mountain", what are you supposed to go tell on a mountain?
4. What is the name of Scrooge's deceased business partner in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol?
5. In the Christmas Song, who did I see kissing Santa Claus under the mistletoe last night?
6. What was the name of the dog that belonged to the Grinch in Dr. Seuss' book How the Grinch Stole Christmas?
7. Who said, "I never thought it was such a bad little tree. It's not bad at all, really. Maybe it just needs a little love."
8. Which state was the last to make Christmas an official holiday?
9. True or False: Joseph was the one that told Mary she was going to have a baby.
10. In It's a Wonderful Life how do you know that an angel has received his wings?

Answers below



Photo Contest

Grab your camera or look through your file of pictures! You could be a winner in the SWCD's photo contest. The pictures could depict any natural resource related subject (trees, plants, landscapes, wildlife, education) Maximum size limit is 8" x 10". Black-and-white and color prints will be judged together. Photos should be taken in Missouri. There will be two divisions-one for 18 and over and any-one under 18. Photos may be dropped off at the SWCD office before March 03. Each participant may enter three photos.

Four cash prizes will be awarded in each division at the district's annual meeting in March. Winners will be determined by popular vote of attendees.

1. A button 2. 364 3. Jesus Christ is born! 4. Jacob Marley
5. Mommy 6. Max 7. Linus in A Charlie Brown Christmas
8. Oklahoma 9. False: It was an Angel 10. A bell rings.

**Mark
Your
Calendar**

The SWCD's annual dinner meeting will be March 14, 2017 at the Knights of Columbus building in Camdenton, MO.

Thank you!!

Thank you for voting to continue the Parks, Soils, and Water Tax for another 10 years. This tax provides funds for most of the programs provided through the Soil and Water Conservation District. If you have participated in a cost-share practice or educational program at the SWCD, you have benefitted from this tax. Thanks!

**CAMDEN COUNTY SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

275 Old South 5
Camdenton, MO 65020

Phone: 573-346-5125

Board of Supervisors

Ernest L. Calvert,, Chairman
Joseph Moulder, Vice-Chairman
Jeff Apperson, Secretary
Troy Frederick, Member

SWCD Personnel

Connie Luttrell, Manager
Dennis Bruns, Technician

NRCS Personnel

Mike Morris, District Conservationist
Alan Garton, Resource Conservationist
Dan Silberberg, Resource Conservationist

Conserving for the Future
<http://swcd.mo.gov/camden>

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*Have you
eaten any
soil lately?*



During Osage Beach's Fall Festival the Camden and Miller Soil & Water Conservation Districts set up a display to educate adults and children on how important soil is in sustaining life. Kids were asked if they knew their hamburgers came from the soil. They also got to play plinko and win a prize, play with farm animals and dig in the soil to find a worm. The farm animals were not real. The worms were!



Plinko